GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:220
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2015
Guidelines for Firecrackers
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any policy/guidelines exists to regulate the use of chemicals and heavy metals like cobalt, copper and magnesium used for the manufacture of firecrackers and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government has taken note of adverse impact of use of firecrackers to environment and public health at large;
(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
(d) whether the Government is planning to make it mandatory for the firecrackers manufacturers to provide information such as the composition of chemicals used in firecrackers and their effects on the environment during labeling and packaging process; and
(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)
(a) No, Madam.
(b) & (c): The Government is aware of adverse impact of firecrackers as these cause noise and air pollution. Noise Standards for firecrackers have been specified under Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 and Explosives Rules, 2008 for compliance at manufacturing stage. Also, restrictions on bursting of firecrackers are imposed under Rules 5 'A' of the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) under Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has informed that noise and air pollution adversely affect public health at large, however no study has been carried out by them in this regard. CPCB issues advertisements to increase awareness regarding ill effects of bursting of fire crackers on Diwali.
(d)&(e): It is mandatory for the firecrackers manufacturers to mention explosives composition and quantity of such composition as per Rule 15(4) of Explosives Rules, 2008, however, there is no provision to mark consequential effects of fireworks on its labels and packages.
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